AMERICAN DRAGON "DRAGON BREATH" (7W14-103)

TEASER:

EXT. NEW YORK STREETS - NIGHT

THE MOON - is high in the night sky. PAN DOWN to a serene street corner. All is well...

A SEWER MANHOLE - suddenly bursts open and MAGICAL CREATURES pour out in droves, hastily throwing on haphazard disguises as they run (bags over their heads, crooked hats, etc.)

1 MAGICAL CREATURES

Save yourselves! / Run for the

hills!/ AHHHHH!!!

WIDER - The barrage of magical creatures rush past GRANDPA, FU DOG and JAKE.

2 GRANDPA Something tells me this is the place.

3 JAKE So... um... what exactly is down there freakin' everybody out?

4 FU DOG

That's the million dollar question,

kid.

Jake gulps nervously as we hear an .

MANHOLE POV - Jake, Grandpa and Fu Dog gaze down at CAMERA. Jake looks particularly apprehensive.

5 JAKE

Guys, uh, I'd love to go down there and do some serious magical realm defending, but... thing is, I'd prefer not to get my face rearranged the day before the fall dance.

6 GRANDPA

Ah, Jake... even the thirstiest frog cannot drink from two ponds at once.

7 FU DOG

In other words, duties before cuties.

Fu Dog quickly SHOVES JAKE into the open manhole.

8 JAKE

INT. SEWER TUNNEL - MOMENTS LATER

Jake lands in the sewer with a .

He takes at the sound of another . He tries to put on his best authoritative voice, but his voice cracks nervously.

9 JAKE

Now listen up, yo. Whatever you are, I'm here to tell you to take your nasty business out of the sew-

AHHHH!

Out of the shadows, a BLUR OF A BLACK, WINGED CREATURE with GLOWING RED EYES flies into Jake, smashing him into a wall.

10 JAKE

Before Jake can catch a glimpse of it, the creature quickly retreats into the shadows. Momentarily panicked, Jake feels his nose and mouth.

11 JAKE

My face! How's my face?!

GRANDPA & FU DOG, gazing down through the man hole - exchange a look.

JAKE - stands, gathering himself...

12 JAKE

Okay, you asked for it. Dragon up!

In a SWIRL OF FX, Jake morphs into FULL DRAGON form-THE CREATURE - once again strikes out at Jake, but this time
Jake is ready.

QUICK CUTS - Jake and the creature trade blows in the shadows. Because of the darkness, we're never able to get a good look at Jake's opponent.

13 JAKE

Whoo, that's right! How you like these moves? Huh, sewer freak?

000F!

THE CREATURE - lands a TALONY CLAW punch in Jake's stomach, the force of which causes Jake to EXHALE a burst of DRAGON FIRE.

14 JAKE

The creature and retreats into the darkness.

EXT. STREET - MOMENTS LATER

Jake victoriously postures to Grandpa and Fu Dog.

15 JAKE

Believe that! You all see me represent? Dragon fire-sends 'em runnin' every time, yo!

16 GRANDPA

Whatever it is, it will be back.

Jake's smile drops.

17 JAKE

Joy killer.

SMASH CUT TO:

OPENING CREDIT SEQUENCE

ACT I

EXT. STREETS - MORNING

ESTABLISHING SHOT - of the city.

18 TRIXIE (V.O.)

Yo, Jake-it's that time of year-

JAKE, TRIXIE, & SPUD - skateboard towards school,

occasionally leaping over trash cans, etc. All three wear

PROTECTIVE GEAR.

19 TRIXIE

-Time to make things right with the universe by puttin' in some serious charity time.

20 JAKE

So... what? You're volunteering at the homeless shelter instead of going to the dance?

21 TRIXIE

What are you, bananas? The dance is my charity time. I'm takin' Spud! Not only as a charity to him, but to all the homegirls who won't have to be his date.

Spud smiles a goofy/excited smile.

22 SPUD

We're gonna wear matching shirts.

Trixie, just over Spud's shoulder, gives Jake the 'uh, no we ain't' shake of her head.

The friends reach the school and hop off their skateboards.

Trixie the air, looking around, curious.

23 TRIXIE

Uh... Do you guys smell something funny?

24 SPUD

It's not me. I showered today. Or was that yesterday... Or maybe it was Tuesday...

CUT TO:

INT. SCHOOL HALLWAY - SAME

Jake, Trixie and Spud enter the school, boards tucked under their arms. Trixie turns to Jake.

25 TRIXIE

So Jakey. Who you takin' to the dance?

26 JAKE

I'm gonna ask Rose.

27 SPUD

Gonna? You better get on that train, buddy, or Rose is gonna pull out of the station without you. She'll be all whoo-whoo, and you'll be all (waving his arms) watching her caboose get away...

Jake scoffs.

28 JAKE

Spud, please. Thing about the ladies is, you can't come across too eager. That train is running on my schedule.

Just then Rose approaches from down the hallway.

Trixie elbows Jake.

29 TRIXIE

You think you can, you think you can.

30 JAKE

I know I can.

As Jake walks down the hallway towards Rose, we go into a SLOW-MO HYPER-REALITY. Jake's heat BEATS loudly. He gulps.

Okay. You can do this. You the mack Daddy...

Jake is jolted out of hyper-reality by a KID opening a locker right SMACK in his face.

Jake bounces off the locker, landing directly in Rose's path, causing her to trip over him.

TRIXIE - raises an eyebrow towards Spud.

32 TRIXIE
He thought he could, he thought he could.

ON JAKE AND ROSE - as he helps her up.

33 ROSE Ohmygosh. Are you okay?

34 JAKE Sorry, I just... locker... face...

Rose smiles at Jake. He takes this as a sign...

35 JAKE So, uh, I was sort of wondering if you have plans for the dance?

Just then BRAD, a hulking jock-type wearing a varsity letterman's jacket, walks up.

36 ROSE
(a hint of disappoint)
Oh. I'm going with Brad. He just asked me this morning.

CLOSE ON JAKE - crushed. As his face falls, we hear the SOUND of a TRAIN CHUGGING ALONG, GRINDING TO A SCREECHING HALT, then CRASHING.

BACK TO SCENE - as Jake tries desperately to save face.

37 JAKE
Oh... that's... that's great! I
have a date too. Totally. Have a
date.

38 ROSE

Cool. Who are you bringing?

39 JAKE

Oh, you don't know her, but...
uh... she is fine! Smoking hot.
Ring up the fire marshal, 'cause
this girl's gonna set the place
ablaze! I just wanted to make sure
you were taken care of.

40 BRAD

Rest assured, my friend. She is.

Brad elbows Jake knowingly, then puts his arm around Rose as they walk away. Rose calls back to him.

41 ROSE

See ya at the dance!

Trixie and Spud walk up.

42 TRIXIE

Yo, we here for ya, Jakey.

Spud pats his shoulder, offering it to Jake.

43 SPUD

Bro. Let the healing begin.

44 JAKE

Dude. No time for tears. I just told Rose I was showing up at the dance with a hot date. I gotta find one!

45 SPUD

Look, I wouldn't do this for just anyone, but I got this wig...

46 TRIXIE

Hey! You're my date. Jake'll be just fine... as long as he takes care of that breath before he goes asking girls out.

47 SPUD

So that's what smells funny.

(then to Jake)

Dude! Supercalifragalistic-cronic hallitosis.

Trixie waves at the air in front of her and she and Spud

exit.

Jake checks his breath, shocked.

CUT TO:

INT. CAFETERIA - DAY

PRETTY GIRL # 1 pushes her tray down the cafeteria line.

Jake suavely sidles up next to her.

48 JAKE Hey, how you doing?

The Pretty Girl recoils.

49 PRETTY GIRL #1 Ugghh! And I thought the tuna stroganoff stunk up the place.

50 JAKE Still? I gargled before lunch, but...

She reaches into her pocket and pulls out a roll of breath mints.

51 PRETTY GIRL #1 Take a breath mint. Actually, take the whole roll.

The Pretty Girl thrusts the entire roll of mints at Jake and quickly hurries away.

CUT TO:

EXT. TRACK - DAY

PRETTY GIRL # 2 (subtly less pretty than #1) is stretching on the track. A hurdle is a few paces behind her. Jake jogs up to her confidently.

52 JAKE School dance. You? Me?

With each word Jake speaks the girl grimaces and takes a step

back before falling backwards over the hurdle.

53 PRETTY GIRL #2 Um, I... you... Ahhhhh!

QUICK CUT TO:

EXT. SCHOOL - LATER

A crowd has gathered to watch, as a few PARAMEDICS load Pretty Girl #2 into an AMBULANCE. Jake looks on, still trying to play it cool.

54 JAKE
If the doctors release you by tomorrow night, gimme a ring, cool?

The Ambulance doors SLAM shut in his face.

CUT TO:

INT. HALLWAY - DAY

Jake leans against a locker, playing it cool.

55 JAKE
Why fight it? I need a date, you don't have one...

WIDEN TO REVEAL that Jake is talking to the FORTY-SOMETHING FEMALE SCHOOL JANITOR.

Jake leans in close.

56 JAKE I mean, is it just me, or are you feelin' something here?

A beat, and the janitor faints dead away from Jake's breath. Jake's smile drops.

57 JAKE
Aw come on! My breath can't be THAT bad-

Just then, the school LOUD SPEAKER CHIMES.

58 LOUD SPEAKER
Attention students, due to a
mysterious odor permeating the
school grounds, we will be
evacuating the building until haz
mat crews have located the the
source of the stench.

Students quickly filter out of the hallway.

59 JAKE

Aw, maaaaaan.

ON JAKE - alone and sad in the hallways. He SIGHS, causing the paint on the lockers in front of him to PEEL OFF.

DISSOLVE TO:

EXT. CHINATOWN Ñ DAY

PUSH IN - on Grandpa's shop.

60 GRANDPA (V.O.) Jake, do not worry.

INT. GRANDPA'S SHOP N AFTER SCHOOL

Grandpa looks up from a stack of books piled up next to him. Jake is still sulking.

61 GRANDPA
Bad breath is normal for dragons
your age. Your fire-breathing
glands are maturing. It should
only last for one, maybe two weeks.

Two weeks?!? Unacceptable, Gramps. I got a dance to go to. A lady friend to impress, you feel me?

63 GRANDPA Breath is not important...

Grandpa begins combing through another old book.

64 GRANDPA
What is important is for us to identify the creature in sewer.

(MORE)

64 GRANDPA (CONT'D) The dragon council is awaiting a full report.

Jake leans over Grandpa's shoulder, looking in the book.

65 JAKE

Uh-huh. Anything in those books about how to get rid of my stink mouth?

66 GRANDPA

Jake. You should not worry about other people's perceptions of you. The horn does not make the unicorn.

67 JAKE

Actually it does. Otherwise, it's just a horse.

68 GRANDPA

Do not question your dragon master!

As Grandpa returns to perusing his dusty books-Fu Dog pulls Jake aside.

69 FU DOG

You seriously taking advice from a man who hasn't had a date since the Ming Dynasty?

70 JAKE

Uh... no?

Fu gestures towards the back room.

71 FU DOG

Good answer. Follow me, kid. I got just the thing.

INT. BACKROOM - MOMENTS LATER

FU DOG - quickly mixes a few magical herbs with a mortar and pestle. Jake looks on.

72 FU DOG

Crushed bat guano. Bang! Pinch of rosemary. Ba-boom! And last but not least...

Fu grabs a frog from OS, and squeezes one of its warts into

the mix. The concoction SIZZLES with a puff of PINK SMOKE.

Fu Dog pours the contents of the bowl into a tiny vial on the end of a necklace. He quickly puts the necklace around Jake's neck.

73 FU DOG Bingo! As long as you're wearing this baby, bad breath is but a distant nightmare.

Jake throws his arms around Fu Dog's neck.

74 JAKE Fu, you rock! This is awesome!

Fu Dog squirms out of Jake's grasp.

75 FU DOG
Just be careful with it. Toad wart
isn't back in season 'til June. Now
about getting you a date to the
dance...

Jake reacts, shocked.

76 JAKE Huh? But I've already asked every girl in school.

Fu Dog has a glint in his eye.

77 FU DOG Who said anything about school?

CUT TO:

INT. SUBWAY CAR - DAY

As Jake and Fu Dog ride on the subway.

78 FU DOG Now, if you really wanna impress Miss Rose, you gotta show up at the dance with a grade A prime hottie. Show her that you're a serious player.

79 JAKE I AM a serious player.

80 FU DOG
Good, kid. You keep telling
yourself that. Now, I happen to
know some ladies on my side of town
that might be willing to help you
out.

The train stops and Jake jumps up to get off the train.

81 JAKE

Bring it, Fu.

Fu Dog grabs onto Jake's shirt tail, stopping him in his tracks.

82 FU DOG

Whoa, hold up, kid.

83 JAKE

But this is the last stop.

84 FU DOG

Not for us it ain't.

The subway doors close, the subway drive removes his had to

REVEAL ELF EARS.

Fu Dog gives Jake a knowing glance.

The subway driver pushes a control button and the subway car lowers into the ground.

CAMERA PANS DOWN as the subway car sinks into the ground and comes to a stop on the lower level.

Fu Dog pulls a bewildered Jake out of the car.

CUT TO:

EXT. MAGICAL FLEA MARKET/ ALLEY Ñ SAME

Jake and Fu Dog emerge from the subway in a magical alley.

It's a bustling flea market where magical creatures stand on every corner. Vendors sell bat wings and newt tails instead of ten pairs of socks for five dollars.

85 VENDORS

Eye of newt, five for a dollar!/
Guano. Get yer Guano!/ Ear muffs!
Hide your pointy ears all winter
long!

86 FU DOG Welcome to Magus Bazaar, kid. Anything you need, you can find it here.

FU - turns to Jake who is taking it all in.

87 FU DOG Stick close. I don't want you talking to anybody unless I give you the thumbs up. Some of these characters are a little unsavory.

Fu Dog pulls Jake over to a tent. A VENDOR with a rolling cart is stationed in front of the tent.

88 FU DOG Hey, Veronica, you back

there, sweetheart?

VERONICA comes out of the tent. She's about Jake's age, and super hot. (NOTE: HER LOWER HALF IS HIDDEN BY THE VENDOR'S CART.)

Jake's eyes light up, excited.

89 VERONICA Fu Dog! You out of bat liver oil already?

90 FU DOG Nah, nah, I got someone here I'd like you to meet. Jake, meet Vah vah-vah-vah-eronica.

Fu Dog shoves Jake towards Veronica. Jake smiles at her. Fu Dog nudges him on.

91 JAKE
Hey. Uh, yeah, cool. Listen, I was
wondering if you weren't busy
tomorrow night, maybe I could...

The VENDOR rolls his cart away, to reveal Veronica's lower half. She has eight hairy, spindly spider legs.

JAKE - reacts, shocked.

92 JAKE ...maybe I could slowly back away...

Jake backs away from Veronica, then turns and speed walks away as fast as he can. Fu Dog rolls exchanges a shrug with Veronica and then chases down Jake.

93 FU DOG Hey, what's the matter with you?

94 JAKE Sorry, I guess I was just a little put off by the eight hairy spider legs!!

95 FU DOG Hey, I thought you might be a leg man. Now relax, I got a few other options.

Fu Dog motions to-

Two attractive twin sisters. The one on the left (KARA) is frowning, dressed down in all black; the one on the right (SARAH) is all smiles and dressed in a pretty white dress. Jake smiles, impressed.

96 JAKE
Twins! Now that's what I'm talking about!

97 FU DOG
They ain't just twins. They're
Oracle twins, seers—as in, they
can see into the future.

98 JAKE Wow. How cool is that?

Jake saunters up to Sarah. Sarah smiles a wide, happy smile at him.

99 SARAH

(all smiles and sunshine)
Hi, you're cute! Wanna know the
exact time and date you're gonna
kick the bucket? Buy the farm? Take
the big dirt nap?

Jake's jaw drops.

100 JAKE

Uh...

Kara, a walking bad attitude, glowers at him.

101 KARA

(gloom and doom)

You're getting a game station 3000 for Christmas this year. Whoop dee tap-dancing doo for you.

Jake steps back to Fu Dog.

102 FU DOG

Here's the deal, kid: Sarah, little Miss Sunshine, can only see the bad stuff that's gonna happen. Kara, Miss Gloom and Doom, can only see the good stuff. Go figure. Anyhow, you got your pick.

Jake glances back and forth as Sarah flirtatiously pokes at a mole on Jake's hand.

103 SARAH

(still smiles & sunshine)
You should totally have that mole
on your hand checked!

A horrified Jake pulls Fu Dog away.

104 JAKE

I pick neither. Look Fu, I'm looking to impress Rose, not traumatize her for life.

105 FU DOG

Take it easy, kid. We're just gettin' warmed up.

Just then, Jake spots JASMINE in the distance. She's a super hot girl with flawless skin and raven black hair.

106 JAKE Okay, but uh... how 'bout I pick the next girl...

Before Fu Dog sees Jasmine, he yanks Jake in the other direction.

107 FU DOG
No way, kid. Some of these girls
are dangerous. Just stick with me
and I'll make sure you don't get-

Just then, a huge OGRE picks up Fu Dog by the scruff of his neck. A GOBLIN steps out from behind the Ogre.

108 FU DOG

-hurt.

109 HERBERT GOBLIN Well, well, well. You've to a lotta nerve, showing your face around here.

Fu Dog forces a casual smile.

110 FU DOG
Herbert, c'mon! I was gonna pay
you back those dog biscuits.
Seriously. I just need a little
more time...

Still lost in the vision of beauty that is Jasmine, Jake drifts through the market towards her.

ANGLE ON JASMINE - looking over a cart of strange looking magical creatures. Jake approaches.

111 JAKE Hi. Come here often?

Jasmine turns to see Jake standing beside her. She smiles.

112 JASMINE
No. I'm just in town for a few days visiting my family.

Jake leans into Jasmine, smiling a winning smile.

113 JAKE

Well, a visitor should have the proper tour quide.

Jasmine smiles back.

114 JASMINE

You have someone in mind?

115 JAKE

Jake Long, at your service.

116 JASMINE

Jasmine.

117 JAKE

Listen, there's a dance at my school tomorrow night... I was wondering if maybe you'd like to go with me.

Jasmine considers this.

118 JASMINE

I'd love to but...

119 JAKE

But what? Is it my breath? 'Cause this necklace was supposed to-

Jake fumbles for his necklace, but Jasmine lightly touches his arm, cutting him off.

120 JASMINE

Chill. Your breath is newty fresh. I just have to be home early. I stayed out late last night, and got in sooooo much trouble. You don't even know.

121 JAKE

Hey, no prob. How early we talkin'?

122 JASMINE

Oh, y'know, sometime around... Ten twenty three and fifteen seconds, Eastern Standard Time.

(then)

It's this whole lunar cycle thing.

123 JAKE

Well, you can tell me all about it at the dance.

Jake looks over to see that the Ogre now has Fu Dog hanging upside down by his feet.

124 JAKE

Uh, I'll see you tomorrow, o.k.?

Jake dashes away.

ON FU DOG - as the Ogre dangles him by his feet.

125 FU DOG

Guys, be reasonable...

126 JAKE (O.S.)

Why don't you pick on someone your own size?

REVEAL JAKE - in FULL DRAGON form, standing in front of the Ogre.

127 JAKE

Technically, I'm smaller than you, but I'm still pretty confident I can kick your can.

The Ogre puts down Fu Dog and gets up in Jake's dragon face.

He as he towers over Jake.

Jake reaches around behind the Ogre with his tail, taping him on the shoulder.

128 OGRE

Huh?

As the Ogre looks away in the direction of the tap, Jake winds up for a punch.

ON VENDOR CART - The Ogre flies backwards into FRAME...

129 OGRE

Whooooooaaaah!

... into the a cart containing various caldrons of

brew. The caldrons fly into the air, landing upside down on

the Goblin and the Ogre's heads.

Fu Dog and Jake scurry away to safety as the Goblin and the Ogre crash around blindly.

130 FU DOG Nice save, kid. Now maybe we can find you a date in Troll Town.

It's cool, Fu. We should get you outa here. I uh, I think I'll just figure something out on my own. I'll be fine.

Jake sneaks a look back at Jasmine who smiles and waves at him.

132 JAKE

Just fine.

JASMINE - turns and walks towards a vendor cart filled with rough-looking white stones.

133 VENDOR #1
Moon rocks! Get your moon rocks
right here!

As she passes near the cart, her eyes glow an eerie red...

FADE OUT.

SCRIPT PORTION MISSING

INT. CAFETERIA/SCHOOL DANCE - DAWN

ON Trixie and Spud, as they sit next to each other at a table. The JANITOR from earlier sweeps up in the B.G. Spud stares at Trixie, dumbfounded. A long beat then...

256 SPUD (Trixie's voice)

Sweet mamma flapjacks, please tell

me I'm looking at a mirror.

Trixie looks at her hands, dumbfounded. She flips them back and forth in front of her face, mesmerized.

257 TRIXIE
(Spud's voice)
Wow. I coulda sworn I was white.

As they continue to stare at each other, dumbfounded, we...

FADE OUT:

END SHOW